

## Amnesty reports widespread torture

ARRESTED (R) — Amnesty International, the London-based human rights body, said Saturday it regularly received reports about torture and ill-treatment from more than half the 159 member states of the United Nations. "This is in spite of the fact that torture is prohibited in international agreements like the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the African Charter on Human and People's Rights," an Amnesty official said. He was speaking at the end of a three-day Amnesty International regional conference here. A conference communiqué said Amnesty, which has some 500,000 members in 160 countries, would urge governments worldwide to instruct law-enforcement officials to ban torture. Governments would also be urged to start independent inquiries into allegations of human rights abuses and to set limits to how long a detainee could be held incommunicado.



# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Foundation  
جوردان تليمن يومس: مؤسسة جوردانية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والرأي

## Refugee aid pledges below estimate

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Forty-seven countries have pledged a total of \$126 million for relief programmes of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees which will cost an estimated \$384 million next year. A tally made public Saturday after a conference at the U.N. showed that the United States promised more than half the total. The U.S. offered \$39.8 million for African refugees, \$9 million for Central and South America, \$13 million for South East Asia, \$15 million for Afghan refugees and \$400,000 for Vietnamese going into exile. Australia was the second biggest donor with \$11.5 million, followed by Norway (\$8.2 million), Sweden (\$6.9 million) and Britain (\$6.5 million). Canada, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, Pakistan and Venezuela said they would announce contributions later, the U.N. reported.

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## Gaza professor shot dead

GAZA CITY, Occupied Gaza Strip (AP) — A Palestinian professor and religious leader at the Islamic University here was shot to death outside his home Saturday morning, hospital and university officials said. The officials identified the victim as Dr. Ismail Al Khateib, 39, dean of the university's Arabic Language College. A spokesman for the Israeli occupation authority told the Associated Press by telephone he would not comment on the report.

## Jawara, Chatti discuss peace bid

BAHRAIN (R) — Gambian President Jawara Jawara and Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Secretary-General Habib Chatti reviewed in Jeddah Saturday peace bids to end the Iran-Iraq war, the Saudi Press Agency said. The talks come amid press reports that the 45-member OIC is planning to reactivate the work of an Islamic peace committee set up in January 1981 to seek an end to the war.

## Khaddam in Iran with Assad message

TEHRAN (R) — Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam arrived in Tehran Saturday for what he said was "an exchange of views on U.S.-Zionist designs in the area." Mr. Khaddam, who was carrying a message from President Hafez Al Assad, will meet Iranian President Ali Khamenei, Parliament Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani and Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, informed sources said.

## Israel says Soviets give arms to PSP

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Radio said Saturday six new tanks and other heavy weapons, including mortars, had been supplied directly to the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) by the Soviet Union. The radio, quoting military sources, reported that Israeli patrols ranging north of the Awali River in the mainly Druze PSP-controlled Harouf area of Lebanon last week spotted the six tanks, which were being operated by PSP militia crews.

## Gandhi meets envoy to Pakistan

NEW DELHI (AP) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi met Saturday with India's ambassador to Pakistan, summoned home following accusations that Pakistan allowed Sikh separatists to assault an Indian official and engage in anti-India activity. Details of the meeting, confirmed by the prime minister's spokesman, were not immediately available. Ambassador K.D. Sharma was summoned home Thursday after the government accused Islamabad of encouraging Sikh pilgrims from western countries to make speeches against India. The recent developments appear to have further strained relations between the two rival neighbours despite pledges by both sides for better ties (See related story on page 8).

## Arafat cancels Executive Committee session

# PLO officials confident of securing quorum for PNC

By Lamis K. Andoni  
with agency dispatches

AMMAN — Two senior officials of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said Saturday that more than two-thirds of the members of the Palestine National Council (PNC) have agreed to attend the 17th session of the council scheduled to be held in Amman on Nov. 22 as PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat called off a last-minute effort to convene the PLO Executive Committee in Tunis to debate the issue.

Adeeb Za'atoun, deputy speaker of the PNC, told a press conference in Amman that "until two weeks ago, 271 members of the council agreed to attend the planned session in Amman on Nov. 22" and implied that these members were expected to attend the session, thereby fulfilling the two-thirds quorum requirement of the 384-member council.

Mr. Za'atoun, member of the Central Committee of Fateh, the largest commando movement and

will take place to fix another date." Mr. Za'atoun said the PNC meeting agenda was distributed to council members Friday and observer delegates from Cyprus and Hungary had already arrived in Amman.

The PNC meeting was expected to last five or six days, he said. In a telephone interview with the Jordan Times from Tunis, Yasser Abd Rabbo, member of the political bureau of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) and the DFLP representative in the PLO Executive Committee, said Mr. Arafat called off Saturday's planned meeting of the committee because of refusal by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and four Syrian-backed factions grouped in a "national alliance" to attend the meeting.

Mr. Abd Rabbo's statement was the first public confirmation of differences among factions of a "democratic alliance," which groups the DFLP, the PFLP, the Palestinian Communist Party and the Palestine Liberation Front, over the issue of convening the PNC in

Amman. Mr. Za'atoun also emphasised the "legitimacy of the planned PNC session" by pointing out that more than one-fourth of the 384 members of the council signed an appeal last month calling for an immediate session of the council.

Meanwhile in Tunis, a senior PLO official said that a planned meeting of the organisation's Executive Committee had to be called off Saturday and blamed the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) — one of the key factions of a "democratic alliance" within the PLO — for the cancellation of the meeting as scheduled.

Mr. Abd Rabbo also strongly criticised the PFLP and the "national alliance" who he accused of "wasting the last chance for achieving a comprehensive national agreement among various factions of the PLO."

However, Mr. Abd Rabbo reiterated the "democratic alliance" stand that it will not attend the PNC session in Amman. "We reject the policy of convening a PNC session in response to a call made

(Continued on page 3)

## Craxi arrives in Cairo

CAIRO (AP) — Italian Premier Bettino Craxi arrived in Cairo Saturday for a three-day official visit and was greeted by his Egyptian counterpart Kamal Hassan Ali.

Accompanying Mr. Craxi were Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid was also at Cairo International Airport to greet the Italian guests.

No statements were made at the airport, but in an interview released on the eve of his departure, Mr. Craxi was quoted by the Middle East News Agency as saying his talks would focus on the stability and security of the Mediterranean region and Italian-Egyptian cooperation.

Mr. Craxi and Mr. Ali were scheduled to hold their first round of talks later Saturday. Mr. Andreotti and Mr. Abdul Meguid were also scheduled to hold separate talks before joining their prime ministers for full-dress session.

Mr. Craxi will meet President Hosni Mubarak Sunday. From Egypt, he will fly to Saudi Arabia for a two-day visit before returning home.

In both countries Mr. Craxi will discuss regional problems and the possibility of European initiatives during Italy's six-month presidency of the European Community from next Jan. 1. Italian government sources said.

## Egypt foiled Libyan plot to kill Bakoush, Mubarak says

CAIRO (R) — President Hosni Mubarak said Saturday Egypt foiled a Libyan assassination squad sent to Cairo to kill a foe of Colonel Muammar Qadhafi and tricked Libya into announcing its success, Egypt's Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported.

MENA quoted Mr. Mubarak as saying in the Nile Delta town of Benha that the Libyan leadership recruited a Briton and two people "from Malta" to kill Cairo-based Libyan personalities, including ex-Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Al Bakoush.

Egypt caught the squad and sent fake pictures of Mr. Bakoush lying in a pool of blood, Mr. Mubarak said. His "execution" was reported Friday night by Libya's official JANA news agency.

Mr. Mubarak said he heard about the affair and the arrest of the three squad members when he was visiting West Germany at the end of October.

JANA's report Friday spoke of Mr. Bakoush being "executed" at 3 p.m. last Monday.

Mr. Bakoush, secretary-general of the self-styled Libya Liberation Organisation, was in Aswan, Upper Egypt, when Egypt detained the three and learned that he was an intended victim, Mr. Mubarak said.

"We have given fake pictures of Bakoush showing him seriously injured and sinking in his blood, which were sent to the Libyan leadership with the help of these terrorists through the Libyan embassy in Malta."

"It is surprising and strange that Libyan officials competed to inform Qadhafi about the news of the assassination of Bakoush," MENA quoted Mr. Mubarak as saying. "These terrorists got \$106,000 for this operation," he added.

The Libyan news agency report Friday night said "revolutionary forces executed the death sentence last Monday Nov. 12 at 3 p.m. on traitor, agent and stray dog, Abdul Hamid Al Bakoush."

It said suicide squads would continue pursuing opponents of Col. Qadhafi.

Reporters who went to Mr. Bakoush's home in the Cairo suburb of Heliopolis, where Mr. Mubarak also lives, were told by relatives that Mr. Bakoush and his wife had not been seen since Monday. Police there said they were investigating his "mysterious disappearance."

From Mr. Mubarak's statements, this now seems to have been an Egyptian ploy.

The Egyptian president, addressing a political rally in Benha earlier Saturday, called for global action against terrorism. He recently accused Libya of sowing mines that blew up under several merchant ships in the Red Sea last summer and of a plot to bomb the Aswan High Dam on the Nile.

Egypt and Libya have had uneasy relations much of the time since Col. Qadhafi's 1969 revolution toppled King Fdris. The two countries fought a border war in 1977.

Mr. Bakoush is secretary-general of the self-styled Libya Liberation Organisation, one of many groups opposed to Col. Qadhafi's rule.

Speaking at Saturday's rally, Mr. Mubarak warned world leaders against terrorist operations and groups and urged them to adopt a "unanimous stand against world terrorism."

He warned there were terrorist operations being planned to assassinate several world leaders.

Mr. Mubarak said without further elaboration that specific targets included West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah and the ruler of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan.

The Egyptian leader said there was also a plot against Pakistani leader Zia Ul Haq to install the son of executed prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

MENA later quoted Mr. Mubarak as saying that since he became president three years ago, Col. Qadhafi had sent him 13 envoys "and after each of these envoys a problem takes place, like the Red Sea problem."

## Chernenko signals Soviet expectations of U.S. action

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Konstantin Chernenko's statement that he would meet President Reagan if confident of positive results shows Moscow wants to maintain a dialogue but expects Washington to move on Soviet proposals, Western diplomats said Saturday.

The Soviet president said Friday, in written answers to questions from the U.S. NBC television network, that the time was not ripe for a summit but that one could be arranged when there was confidence about its success and results.

Western diplomats said the fact Mr. Chernenko answered questions at all from NBC, and from the Washington Post last month, showed Moscow's desire to keep talking, albeit in public.

Moscow seemed prepared to maintain a fragile dialogue which gained pace after Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko met Mr. Reagan last September, before his November re-election.

Although Mr. Chernenko's tone was relatively mild, however, he clearly still expected Washington to act on Soviet proposals, chiefly on nuclear and space weapons, the diplomats said.

## U.S. nudging Egypt for flexibility towards Israel

CAIRO (AP) — The United States is urging Egypt to make a gesture toward the Israelis, such as sending a special envoy to Tel Aviv, but the Egyptians are hesitant to do so, according to Western and Arab diplomatic sources.

The sources, who represent several governments but refuse to be identified by name or nationality, say the Reagan administration believes Israel would be pleased by such a gesture. This would strengthen the position of Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres against Likud bloc members of his government who oppose returning Arab lands as part of a Middle East settlement.

"The Americans are advising the Egyptians to be more flexible with Mr. Peres," said one well-placed source. "But so far they are treating him like they were treating Begin and Shamir." Former Prime Ministers Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir of the Likud bloc followed a relatively uncompromising policy towards the Arabs' demand for the return of the occupied West Bank and Gaza in exchange for peace.



Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat (second from right) replies to questions by citizens of Karak during an open session of the cabinet held in Karak Saturday (Petra photo)

## Cabinet assures Karak citizens of better services, development

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat — for the first time since taking office — Saturday held an open cabinet session in Karak where he reviewed with members of his cabinet requests and inquiries by officials and citizens in the governorate who were answered directly on the spot.

In his response to inquiries made during the two-hour session, Mr. Obeidat assured the citizens of the Karak Governorate of the government's concern and attention towards the needs of the governorate.

Mr. Obeidat told the session that the government is committed to develop the level of services in the governorate including medical services, roads, postal services and schools. He said the government works towards implementing the concept of comprehensive development in the various parts of the Kingdom considering it as an important responsibility of the government.

Speaking at Saturday's rally, Mr. Mubarak warned world leaders against terrorist operations and groups and urged them to adopt a "unanimous stand against world terrorism."

He warned there were terrorist operations being planned to assassinate several world leaders.

Mr. Mubarak said without further elaboration that specific targets included West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah and the ruler of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan.

The Egyptian leader said there was also a plot against Pakistani leader Zia Ul Haq to install the son of executed prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

MENA later quoted Mr. Mubarak as saying that since he became president three years ago, Col. Qadhafi had sent him 13 envoys "and after each of these envoys a problem takes place, like the Red Sea problem."

Speaking at the session broadcast live on the radio, Mr. Obeidat pointed out that the government is in the process of implementing a new five-year development plan which would contribute in achieving a better standard of living and social development to all sectors in the Kingdom.

The prime minister indicated that the government intends to implement a national energy austerity programme in the light of the increasing general expenditure in the Kingdom. He said the programme was under study and research by the ministerial development committee and that it will soon come up for discussion by the Lower House of Parliament prior to its implementation.

He said the government will not lift its subsidy of petroleum products immediately and that the issue will be handled in a way that would not harm citizens with low income.

The government will put an end to the decentralisation system in

the governorates by supporting its budgets and will give executive councils in these governorates a more positive role in the development process, Mr. Obeidat said.

He said the government will give special attention to the agricultural sector by concentrating more on agricultural development programmes in the Kingdom. He called for the participation and cooperation of citizens in this field — side by side with the government — as a prerequisite for the future generations in the country.

The prime minister said the forthcoming few days will witness legislative, laws and regulations that will help develop the agricultural wealth in the Kingdom and achieve the projected goals.

In response to a question, Mr. Obeidat said that the cabinet has approved the instalment of a chicken slaughter house and freezing storage rooms in the governorate

(Continued on page 3)

## Mengistu calls for more aid to Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA (AP) — Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam said Friday he was "highly touched by the humanitarian outpouring" of aid for his drought-ravaged country, but it is still too little.

"Even the relief assistance that has been pledged, not merely that that has already arrived, is not nearly enough to meet our immediate pressing needs," Colonel Mengistu told reporters Friday in his first news conference on the crisis.

Ethiopian envoys have said up to 1.2 million tons is needed to feed the nearly seven million people facing starvation in the East African country. Aid officials have predicted that up to 90,000 could die this year. Dozens of other African countries also are suffering from food shortages.

The United States and Western nations have pledged several hundred thousands tons of food for the Ethiopians.

Col. Mengistu, credited the people of Western countries instead of their governments for the relief assistance.

"We would like to express our admiration for the people... for bringing pressure to bear on their parties and their governments," he said.

A U.N. agency official has predicted that the famine in Ethiopia would get much worse next year. Bert Demmers, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) chief of information service in east and southern Africa, told reporters the critical period would be from January to August.

Mr. Demmers, who has just completed a 2,000-km. through drought-affected areas of Ethiopia, said it seemed the brief rains which normally arrive in January would fail for the third year in a row in many areas, dashing hopes for a harvest.

He added that he expected the situation to become "very, very much worse" until August, when the main rains, called the meher, were due.

## Amal leader describes Israeli torture, demand

BEIRUT (R) — A South Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim leader detained for nine days by the Israeli occupation forces said Saturday he had been handcuffed and beaten with rifle butts, and kept with a bag over his head for three days.

"But the most brutal thing was when they made me strip completely in the open air in front of soldiers," Mahmoud Faqih, South Lebanon president of the Shi'ite movement Amal, told a press conference.

He said senior Israeli officials who later questioned him suggested the Shi'ites take responsibility for "security" in South Lebanon when Israel withdrew, but he had rejected this.

Mr. Faqih was speaking after meeting President Amin Gemayel at his palace outside Beirut, following his release Saturday.

He said he thanked Mr. Gemayel for helping secure his release and asked for help in returning to the south and winning freedom for more than 1,000 people imprisoned without legal process by the Israelis.

Mr. Gemayel and Prime Minister Rashid Karami Saturday attended a meeting of the six-man multi-confessional army command council, which is preparing to send units down the coast towards the southern city of Sidon, to take over when the Israelis leave.

"I hope it will not take more than a week or a little more," Mr. Karami told reporters in a comment on the deployment.

Mr. Faqih was the last to be freed of four Amal leaders seized by the Israelis on Nov. 8, the day Lebanon and Israel began talks on withdrawal of Israeli occupation troops from the south. Lebanon suspended the talks pending their release.

Mr. Faqih said a bag was kept over his head for the first three days at an Israeli interrogation centre. "Soldiers came from time to time and asked for me and struck me with rifle butts," he said.

He said he was first questioned by a colonel and then by Uri Lubrani, Israeli coordinator for Lebanon, and by General Shlomo Illyia, Israel's military governor for the south.

Gen. Illyia had accused Amal of responsibility for most of the resistance attacks on Israeli troops in the south, and Mr. Lubrani asked Mr. Faqih to stop the attacks during the withdrawal talks, he said.

"I told him your (Israeli) withdrawal is the way to achieve a truce and security in the region, and that the Lebanese army with the help of United Nations troops is the only solution to maintain security in the south," Mr. Faqih said.

He said the Israelis also asked for an understanding under which they could entrust "security" in the south to the Shi'ites.

"I clearly told them there are principles which ban such an understanding in addition to the national interest, and that any step which leads to the partition of the country will be resisted," Lebanese women appeal for end to occupation, page 2

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## Omani envoy praises ties, cooperation with Jordan

AMMAN (Pena) — Oman's Ambassador to Jordan Abdullah bin Sa'id Al-Balushi Saturday praised the strong relations between Oman and Jordan and said that both countries maintain consultation about issues of concern to the Arab Nation. The ambassador was speaking in an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, PENA, on the country's 14th National Day anniversary.

He said that Jordan and Oman exchange expertise in educational, health and information fields and that Jordanians are helping to develop Oman in a number of areas. Jordanian educationalists are at present involved in work aimed at developing the school curricula and the educational systems in Oman and Jordanian teachers are employed in Oman's 490 schools, the ambassador said. He said that nearly 300 Omani students now receive higher education at Jordanian universities to get training useful for their country.

The ambassador said that Oman will open Sultan Qaboos University in the 1986/87 academic year, which will start with the faculties of science, medicine, engineering, agriculture, education and Islamic studies. He said that health services in Oman have remarkably improved and free medical treatment is offered to the Omani people.

Oman continues to support the rights of the Palestinian people and will continue to serve Arab causes through the Arab League and the Gulf Cooperation Council, the ambassador said.

## Cabinet holds open session

(Continued from page 1)

to support the efforts of the people working in the poultry field.

He also announced that the government was ready to offer parts of its lands for the purpose of developing the agricultural wealth and cattle grazing.

Referring to a request to move the administrative offices of the main industrial companies to working sites, Mr. Obaidat said the government plans to move the administrative offices of the phosphate and fertilizer companies to their working sites in the south of the Kingdom. The movement of these management offices will take place soon, he added.

Various cabinet members also responded to inquiries made by Karak Governorate citizens.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, Saleh Al-Sayid, said the government has made animal fodder available for farmers to protect the animal wealth and cattle in the Kingdom and that special attention was given to the Karak Governorate, which helped in protecting the cattle there.

Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, Hamdallah Nabulsi said his ministry will work to go ahead with a project of regional planning for the governorate. He indicated that his ministry will work to support municipal councils.

In response to another question, Minister of Public Works, Rafiq Nijm said his ministry will improve the condition of roads in the governorate according to a programme of priorities. He said the ministry has floated a tender for the building of a new bridge in the Karak City entrance.

Agriculture Minister, Mohammad Basrah said in reply to a question that his ministry was in the process of building new agricultural roads in the Karak Governorate as a contribution to support and develop the agricultural wealth in the region.

He said the ministry will implement a practical programme to develop the agricultural pattern in cooperation with the International Food and Agriculture Organisation.

Minister of Supply, Ibrahim Ayyoub told the session that his ministry was contributing to the agricultural wealth, particularly in the field of poultry, by allowing the marketing of farm products in the market. He said the ministry will build storage rooms for food products in the governorate to conform with the increase of production.

Minister of Communications, Mohammad Zaben said that work will soon start on an automatic telephone system between the governorate and the rest of the Kingdom.

He said that work was underway to connect the various parts in the governorate with all postal and telephone services, mainly to population centres.

Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources, Hisham Khatib told the



Her Majesty Queen Noor and His Highness Prince Mohammad attend a concert by Sergio Mendes and Friends at the Al Hussein Youth City (Pena photo)

## Mendes and Friends fulfil expectations with flawless display of synchronicity

By Jean Claude Elias  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Sergio Mendes and Friends concert, held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queen Noor at Al Hussein Youth City Friday evening, was everything expected from the world-renowned Brazilian musician.

Organised by the Royal Endowment for Culture and Education (RECE), the one-night concert to mark His Majesty King Hussein's birthday was attended by His Highness Prince Mohammad, Princess Taghrid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Minister of Labour Tayseer Abduljaber, Youth City Director Issam Areida and senior officials as well as a full theatre of music lovers.

A beautiful show was expected, but Sergio Mendes & Friends' did much more than this, they gave a fantastic and spectacular performance. The magic of Sergio Mendes and his band worked its way out to an almost fully-booked theatre and remained until the end of the show as if the musicians had put a spell on the audience. With all the sound and light equipment, specially brought for the occasion, the concert was bound to be technically perfect. At the centre of

the theatre, among the audience, an engineer with an impressive mixing console was constantly controlling and adjusting the sound system for optimum results.

The band included, in addition to Mr. Mendes on keyboards, one drummer, one percussionist, one keyboard player, one bass guitar player, two guitarists, three female vocalists and one male vocalist. After an instrumental introduction, 'Mas Que Nada', Sergio Mendes' first hit, back in the sixties, was played, and the audience reaction clearly showed that many knew the song. A group of Brazilian young people kept singing and even dancing throughout the show.

A distinctive mark of Mendes arrangements is the female vocalists singing in unison, though occasionally they would sing in harmony. 'Vince Abusou' from the album 'Vintage 74' was more proof of how efficient this simple technique can be. A very special moment in the evening was 'Manha de Carnaval' from the movie 'Orfeu Negro', played on just one guitar, with superb and subtle nuances.

**Synchronicity**

Joe Pizzulo interpreted the famous Never Gonna Let You Go with a powerful and charming 'crooner' voice. The Fool On the

hill, originally written by John Lennon and Paul McCartney, was sung by the band with very interesting arrangements by Dave Grusin, the composer of 'The Graduate' movie music. The audience was also treated to an astonishing and amazingly synchronised drums and percussion solo. A Carnival number was played with typical Brazilian rhythms that made everybody feel like dancing with the band.

Sergio Mendes, a genuine musician, is an arranger, producer, singer, conductor, and keyboard player. With his band, they have even played with a 90-piece classical symphony orchestra in the United States. Using, without ever abusing, electric and electronic keyboards Sergio Mendes knows how to blend different styles and rhythms to obtain an original composition. 'My principal role is to find great songs and talented people', he says. In fact all the musicians and singers of 'Sergio Mendes & Friends', seen at the Palace of Culture concert, are very talented people indeed, with no exception.

When the time came for landing, with Captain Mendes and his crew waving goodbye, the members of the audience left the theatre with the impression of still flying high with 'Sergio Mendes & Friends'.

**Synchronicity**

Joe Pizzulo interpreted the famous Never Gonna Let You Go with a powerful and charming 'crooner' voice. The Fool On the

Australian fund elects Dr. Khatib as member

## GUVS Social Campaign gathers momentum

By Sa'ad G. Hattar  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — President of the executive council of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS), Dr. Abdullah Khatib, is the first person in the Middle East to be elected as a colleague member in the new administration of the International Friendship Organisation for Socio-Economic Development in Australia.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Dr. Khatib said that this initiative has been taken in appreciation for the GUVS voluntary effort and its role in the social development field. GUVS invests JD 8 million a year, he said which is allocated for setting up pioneering projects in the field of handicapped aid, help for senior citizens, child care and family planning.

Speaking of the Australian organisation, Dr. Khatib said that the administration board of this organisation comprises social planners linked to Canberra University. The organisation adopts social projects in the developing countries and one of its major projects at present is setting up a study on the management of development activities in the Middle East and the Arab World, he said.

GUVS, which comprises 60 societies in the East and West Banks of Jordan, is continuing its Social Cooperation Campaign and has collected financial and in-kind contributions estimated to be worth JD 100,000 and distribution to needy families is scheduled to start early next month, according to Mr. Ahmad Abu Faris, who heads a committee supervising the campaign.

He said that the committee operates collection centres in Amman, Salt, Irbid, Zarqa, Ma'an and Aqaba which have so far collected 750 packages containing food, clothing, toys, kitchen utensils, shoes, electrical appliances, sewing machines, pieces of furniture and other household items. Nearly 80,000 items of clothing have been collected in the campaign started at the beginning of November, Mr. Abu Faris said.

The committee in charge of the collection will first sort out the various items before making them ready for distribution at centres, to be announced later, or through teams that will be touring various districts and residential quarters of the different towns, Mr. Abu Faris said. He expected the distribution process to last for a whole month.

The 15-member committee has contacted banks, companies, factories, business concerns and various organisations and has backed the campaign with pamphlets, posters and cards over the past two weeks and the Jordanian society has responded in a very encouraging manner, Mr. Abu Faris said. He added that individuals and companies have made contributions but so far the Jordanian banks and large factories had not contributed.

The campaign depends on the work of 45 volunteers, all university students and housewives who work in their free time together with seven GUVS officials, Mr. Abu Faris pointed out. He said the GUVS committee will soon receive a report from various charitable societies on the families which require immediate help to be given priority in the coming distribution process. The most urgent items needed are foodstuffs, canned food, clothing and shoes for different ages and these will go to the needy families as soon as they are gathered in and classified, he said.

Soon, Mr. Faris said, teams of volunteers will tour districts in a number of cities to and call at homes requesting contributions but this field campaign will be preceded by special announcements urging people, especially the rich, to offer assistance to the poor.

**Prominent Palestinian figure, lawyer passes away aged 72**

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former parliament member, well-known lawyer and Palestinian key figure Abdul Khaleq Yaghmour died in Amman Friday at the age of 72. Mr. Yaghmour was born in Hebron in the occupied West Bank and studied in the city's schools before continuing his studies in Cairo where he graduated in 1946 with a law degree.

Mr. Yaghmour served in several government positions and as member of parliament between 1956 and 1964. He was one of the founders of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and member of the PLO's Palestine Central Council.

At one time he served as the mayor of Hebron and president of the voluntary and charitable societies in the West Bank. Mr. Yaghmour fought against the Zionists

and the British during the British mandate in Palestine.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and the PLO office in Amman have expressed their condolences at the passing away of Mr. Yaghmour.

Abdul Khaleq Yaghmour and the British during the British mandate in Palestine.

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# Number of economists in cabinet reflects concerns

By Fahed Fanek

EVEN BEFORE the recent cabinet reshuffle, no Jordanian government ever included that many prominent economists. After the reshuffle, the government of Mr. Ahmad Obeidat may have hit an international record in the share of portfolios held by economists in any council of ministers.

Economists in the present government, by virtue of their academic degrees in economics, or job experience in banking, finance and business are: Dr. Hanna Odeh, the minister of finance; Dr. Jawad Anani, the minister of industry and trade; Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jabbar, the minister of labour and social development; Dr. Abdullah Nsour, the minister of planning; and Mr. Farhi

Obeid, the minister of transport.

The reshuffle did not only add two more economists to the cabinet; it also established two new economic ministries, thus raising the number of economic ministries to ten. These are: The ministry of industry and trade, the ministry of finance, the ministry of supplies, the ministry of agriculture, the ministry of transport, the ministry of communications, the ministry of labour and social development, the ministry of public works, the ministry of planning, and the ministry of energy and mineral resources.

There is one meaning to this economic demonstration: The present situation calls for a special emphasis on the economic and financial aspects of

our public life. Our ability to alleviate economic problems and overcome current financial hurdles are preconditions to our success in other political and social fields.

The discipline of economics is not applicable to pure economic questions only, it can be equally applied to all other aspects of public life.

In taking a quick look at an economy library, one can read titles like Economics and Public Interest, Regional and Urban Economics, The Economics of Energy Crisis, Regional Economics, The Economics of Education, Social Economics, The Economics of Crime, and The Economic Way of Thinking, etc.

Economists are certainly much needed advisers, but the

question of economists becoming successful politicians and decision-makers is debatable at best.

It was Keynes, the father of modern economics, who once said that the theory of economics does not furnish a body of settled conclusions, immediately applicable to policy. It is a method rather than a doctrine, an apparatus of the mind, a technique of thinking, which helps the processor to draw correct conclusions.

In practice, however, the economists are more likely to contribute a negative kind of knowledge because they are excellent in pointing out what is wrong with any decision or policy but cannot show the decision-maker what should be

done rather than what should not be done.

This column is sometimes accused of being negative in looking at Jordanian economic questions. This may be true, I admit, because the economic reasoning is essentially negative.

I am now probably more assured of government tolerance of my (negative) approach. After all the prime minister is willing to have so many economists in his cabinet to tell him what not to do and what is wrong with any decision or policy. So there is probably nothing wrong with having a negative column as well.

This is not to say that in the government there will be a sho-

rage of the positive advice that "something must be done", but the demand for doing something tends to exceed by a wide margin the supply of genuine solutions to economic, financial and social problems.

The reshuffle is in itself an evidence of the need and willingness to change and perform better. In the recent several months Jordan witnessed a lot of activity by way of change of key persons and positions, public administration reform, education, and crackdown on corruption. It is hoped that all this will eventually lead us to our national targets, achieve the desired results, overcome the difficulties and challenges and finally make our wishes and aspirations come true.

## Initiative lives on

THE SERIOUS differences that have recently surfaced within the Palestinian anti-PNC camp are good news to the leadership of Fatah which is growing more and more insistent on holding the 17th session in Amman and on time. But only a positive resolution of these differences can transform the good news into good achievements for the Fatah leadership.

In a few days, we should know the final outcome of the decision on holding the PNC: Whether chairman Arafat musters enough support for his policies or he does not.

The implication of Fatah's courageous initiative to decide upon holding the PNC here is enormous, and there is no doubt that much hard talk and earnest attempts lay behind it. The question is, however, what if the initiative a) fails and b) succeeds.

Granted that Mr. Arafat and his colleagues in the Fatah Central Committee have pulled an unprecedented coup by getting the whole movement to side with and support them on the PNC stand. But they are not yet sure of their majority in the PLO as a whole. In theory at least, the PNC meeting on Thursday could go either way, although only Fatah out of all the other groups seems sure that it has a workable majority that will convene and decide.

This is going to be the biggest test of course, despite the fact that the PLO chairman has played it cool himself. Last night Mr. Arafat was expected to chair the first convincing—or even meaningful—meeting of his Executive Committee since his visit to Cairo last December. But the meeting which would have also given an anointing touch of legitimacy to his call on the PNC to meet in Amman this week, was not to be after the DFLP backed down on its readiness to attend at the last minute.

Still, the crucial point in the exercise should come in a day or two when it will be known whether the opposition to the PNC session cracks up completely or survives the Fatah onslaught. The mustering on Thursday of 260 delegates, with or without the participation of one or two of the smaller Palestinian groups, should tell whether Fatah's gigantic and pioneering step in calling the PNC to session should be a master-stroke or just another futile attempt to heal the Palestinian rift.

Without undue pessimism, we cannot be sure of the step's success either: Very few people in fact can at this stage. Nevertheless, we approach Nov. 22 with confidence and hope, because the direction of this area's political course and future heavily depends upon it.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

### Al Ra'i: Israel manipulates differences

AS PREPARATIONS are going ahead for holding the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in Amman, Israel is busy trying to weaken solidarity among Palestinians in the occupied Arab lands. Through its information services, Israel has been broadcasting campaigns to demobilise the cohesion and solidarity of the Palestinian people by claiming that the PNC meeting is opposed by many Palestinians under its rule.

The Israeli campaign claims that the Palestinians are deeply divided and will never meet. No doubt the Israelis would like to see the Palestinians more divided and failing to hold their meeting in Amman to solve their problems and end all disputes and differences and it is therefore trying to present the PLO leaders as a bunch of irresponsible people and saying their future meeting will be a waste of time. But the people under the Israeli rule cannot be taken in by such propaganda campaigns and will continue to bolster their solidarity and back the PLO's legitimate leadership.

Also the Israeli campaigns will definitely fail if the PLO leaders achieve fruitful results in the Amman meeting.

### Al Dustour: Constructive practice

THE CABINET is holding a session in Karak Saturday in order to make a close hand study of the governorate's needs and requirements, and to plan for development schemes to be included in the national development plan for the coming five years. The visit and the meeting are to be considered as implementation of the King's letter of designation to the government upon its formation earlier this year.

In King Hussein's message the idea of developing all parts of the country and considering the citizen as the most precious possession were emphasised. Perhaps the meeting in Karak is an embodiment of this policy and an implementation of the King's principles. Meeting the people and learning of their needs and listening to their grievances and complaints is part of the democratic process exercised in Jordan and a development of the country's philosophy of offering equal chances for progress and development to various governorates.

We hope that the cabinet follows up on this practice by holding other meetings in different parts of the country.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Frustrating reality

THE ARAB masses feel great disappointment when they see their leaders unable to hold a summit meeting to discuss issues of urgency to the whole Arab Nation. The friends of the Arabs throughout the world are surprised that our leaders cannot agree on holding a meeting when their nation is facing real dangers and chronic problems. Jordanians and Palestinians are not only astonished to see this is happening but also feel frustrated because the Arab governments are shirking their responsibilities towards the Palestine problem.

It is dangerous indeed to overlook the numerous developments in the Middle East and the continuing differences among Arab states, because overlooking them means allowing them to recur, and failing to meet, and solve the problems, opens the door wide for more complications. Jordan has welcomed the convening of the Palestine National Council meeting in Amman because it realises that agreement among Arabs for meeting will help solve problems.

Jordan is keen on the independence of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and allowing the Palestinians to shoulder their responsibilities towards their own future. It is the duty of every citizen to support the PNC meeting as much as it is equally important for Arab states to follow the example of the Palestinians and hold a summit meeting to consider their issues and find solutions for them.

## Ghorbal sees hope for peace in the Middle East

Following is the text of an interview with Egypt's departing ambassador to Washington, Ashraf Ghorbal, by Washington Times diplomatic correspondent Russell Warren Howe, published Nov. 12.

Q: What were your worst and best moments?

A: I think the best was the first visit of Anwar Sadat and especially his being received in the joint houses of Congress. That was a really beautiful occasion. A two-way friendship had been born, and here it was manifest, the president of Egypt being applauded by the Congress.

The worst period was the difficult time of no relations. Things were going downhill. Polarisation was the order of the day: Israel was being totally supported by the United States, and we were being supported by the Soviet Union.

Q: You've seen my interview with (National Security Adviser Robert) Bud McFarlane the other day, the main thrust of which was that the United States was going to adopt a low profile in Middle East diplomacy. What's your reaction to that?

A: If Bud was only talking of the election period, no one has any quarrel with that. But now (that) the elections are over, I hope this is not the case.

Needless to say, the parties most concerned must play a full and active role. They have a prime responsibility. But in the Middle East more than in other places, the catalyst, the broker, the full partner—as we call the United States—also has a prime responsibility. Because the United States brokered the Lebanese agreement which did not, in the final analysis, work out, does not mean that the United States should be so discouraged as to wash its hands of the problems.

In the Middle East, sometimes the parties need the United States to help bring them closer together. Let us not forget that the United States always told the people in the Arab World that the Soviet Union can give you weapons but the United States, the only country that can help you regain your territory and your rights. You can't run away from that position, and you should not.

Q: What would you see as the U.S. role — to revive the half of Camp David which has been forgotten?

A: You have the Reagan initiative, which is the American interpretation of the second part of the Camp David accords, concerning the Palestinians.

We have all seen how, after Camp David, the Likud government adopted a policy on the ground that was not commensurate with what it had signed. It was totally contrary — settlement activities, the harsh treatment of Palestinians, the kicking out of the mayors, the closing of schools. Instead of the

confidence-building measures which we had suggested and that the United States accepted, the Likud government just went in the opposite direction.

It was obvious that the Likud government was telling the Palestinians: Don't listen to President Carter or the American administration or the Egyptians about Camp David. Camp David is what I, Israel, am doing and will do, and you will get nothing. You will be just people in a land that doesn't belong to you.

Put yourself in the shoes of these people. Could they really then ride the train with a feeling of assurance about their destination?

The Reagan initiative came to address the situation. We had impressed on the United States, during the time when we were negotiating with Israel, that it should bring America's view to these meetings. However, the United States did not. It was only on Sept. 1, 1982, that the Reagan initiative did express that American view.

Is that the imposition of a solution, as some Israeli representatives claim? Hell, no, it is not. This was and is the view of the third partner, the broker. And it showed that the Democrats and the Republicans are of the same opinion.

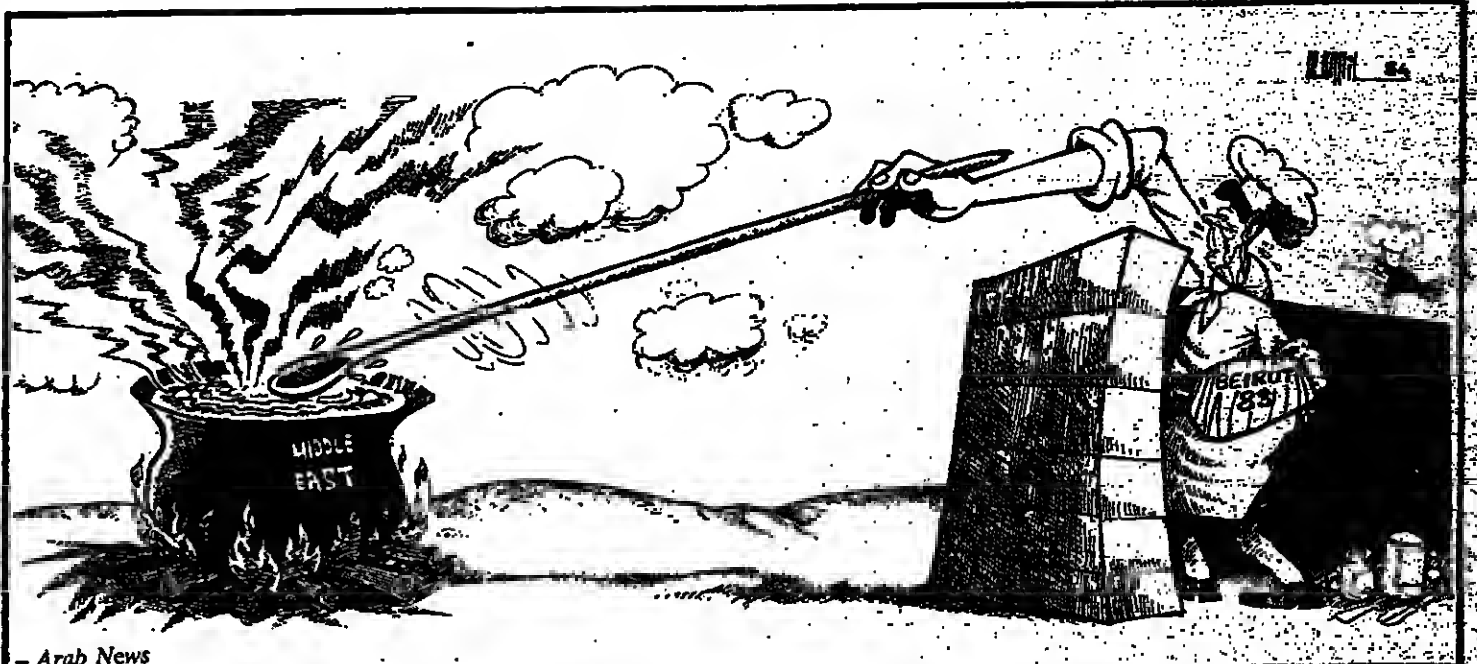
The Reagan initiative has the attractive aspect of being bipartisan. It also has a more attractive aspect now, because (Israeli Premier Shimon) Peres is for it, and more than half the Israeli population is for it.

On the Arab side, it has been equally positively received. Some said it was not complete. For instance, there was no mention of the Golan, but that was corrected in an amplifying statement by Secretary George Shultz a few days later. And there have been the Fez Declaration and the Fahd Plan. These did not object to the Reagan initiative. They were meant to add to it. So it is a valid vehicle for action on the part of the United States, now that the elections are over.

Q: Mr. McFarlane didn't say that the United States was withdrawing, but that the initial movement had to come from the Arab countries and from Israel.

A: You have initial reactions already. You have them from Israel, which is asking the United States to play its role. You have the same request from the foreign minister of Syria. On the Lebanese situation, you have Lebanon saying that it is anxious for the United States to act.

It is true that, at the present moment, the positions are somewhat far apart, and I can understand that the United States



should tell the partners: Don't ever get the impression that I want the agreement more than you do. But it needs the United States to make it click.

Q: Mr. McFarlane was saying that he didn't think this was a time for highly visible U.S. diplomacy. A: I am not telling the United States how to conduct its diplomacy, private or public.

We are anxious to see that the opportunities are not wasted; with the positive signals coming from Peres on withdrawal from Lebanon, and the feeling in Israel that the boys must come home, not only to save lives but to save money, at a time of financial crunch. Syria is equally giving certain signals: There is no flare-up of the situation.

You get a feeling that signals are coming out of Israel and Syria saying: We understand each other. Accommodation is thus possible. Some think Syria is simply waiting for Israel to leave (Lebanon). There is also the possible interpretation that the Syrians, by keeping the terrain calm and the atmosphere cool, are giving the signals that indeed they understand Israel's concern about its security.

Q: You believe the United States should be conducting a more vigorous diplomacy with Syria?

A: I think the time is close for that. I don't think Washington is missing the signals. It's just that, in the Middle East, we have a record of lost opportunities. I don't want this opportunity to be missed by misreading or mistiming, or whatever. There come opportunities that are precious: Hold on tight, make use of them, and let the momentum carry you forward continuously, because, in the Middle East, things just don't stand still. Either they go forward or they go backward.

Q: What do you think King Hussein's role should be at this point?

A: You already have a very positive action, with Jordan resuming relations with Egypt. That's a plus. This has happened, and Egypt's peace with Israel is fully maintained. This confirms that a peaceful settlement is the objective of Jordan.

Then, there is the fact that Saudi Arabia has sent its minister of petroleum (Ahmad Zaki) Yamani to Egypt to discuss oil affairs. It's indicative of the trends of thoughts and signals Saudi Arabia wants to give. These are positive actions on the Arab side.

Yasser Arafat has been anxious to hold his Palestine National Council, in which the moderates would have the upper hand, and that is why they—and we, on their behalf—have been asking that the Palestinian leaders of the West Bank and Gaza, who are moderates, be allowed to attend the council, wherever it is held.

If it is held in Amman, that makes it easier for everyone. This would in itself enhance the chances of the peace process.

Q: Holding it in Amman would mean a certain number of absences?

A: You can't have everyone at the same time. But you would have the active majority which is working for the peace process.

That calls on Israel to play its role, and on the United States to help Israel play its role, and it requires that the Palestinians and the Jordanians, on their side, play their role.

We need movement and momentum on every side, and now the elections are over the time is ripe. Israel, Egypt and the United States have all just held elections. The three partners are no longer so preoccupied with the internal

scene. You have all these positive developments, on the Israeli side and the Palestinian side, and Jordan restoring relations with Egypt, and the Islamic Conference readmitting Egypt. All these things prepare the ground for movement early in 1985.

I call 1985 the year of hope and of a final settlement of the Middle East problem.

Q: Is it your assumption and hope, that Arafat will take the moderates with him, and isolate the others?

A: If the moderates are successful, that will be an invitation to the others to become moderate and share in the realisation of the Palestinian hope.

If they stay out, they will carry the responsibility of sabotaging the Palestinian dream.

I think the momentum and the results will be of such magnitude that the hardliners cannot just shrug matters off easily. I say that about both sides, the Israelis as well as the Palestinians. If we succeed in getting agreement between the Palestinians and the Israelis, for that is the real core, then on both sides I think there will be a real temptation for hardliners to join the moderates in order to claim parts of the credit for the final success.

On the Israeli side, nothing could replace the existence of peaceful borders, and on the Palestinian side nothing could replace self-determination. Whether it be a state or a confederation with Jordan, let them decide. But it will be definitely within the framework of secure peace with Israel. That is the most important factor. The right of one to statehood does not annul the right of another to self-determination and statehood. Both have to live, the Israeli nation and the Palestinian nation.

Q: You didn't say so, but I assume you're expecting Arafat to lead the moderates and be the Palestinian partner?

A: Yes. After all, from the outset, that has been the position of the Palestinians themselves. And that's the decision of the Arab World. No one chooses the other's representatives. No one in the Arab World chose Menachem Begin; it was his own people. And no one chose Peres except his own people.

By the same token, the Israelis cannot reject another people's leader, for one reason or another. The most important is the final act, co-living in peace.

The Israelis cannot just paper over the political problems which are the source of Israel's financial difficulties. The war in Lebanon was a miserable war. It didn't save lives — it has cost Israel 600 already, plus the wounded. War doesn't solve, period.

Q: One of your colleagues was saying to me the other day that there's lack of patience among current American policymakers, that it took Henry Kissinger 33 days to reach agreement in Damascus in 1975, but that now people give up after a single day.

A: I don't know how many days it would take here or there, but it takes a really continuous and determined effort.

The weight and prestige of the United States in the area is still very high. That Syria should be appealing for the United States to play its role speaks for itself. The United States and Iraq are getting close to resuming full relations. I'm happy that we played some part in that rapprochement. The United States has excellent relations with Saudi Arabia and with Jordan and with us. It shouldn't shrink from using its prestige in the area.

## Australia's economic honeymoon may end in tears

The Labour government of Prime Minister Bob Hawke in Australia has had a lot of luck in its 19 months in office, but its success might not last into a second term, as economic problems loom. Michael Thompson-Noel reports.

SYDNEY — Dapper. That is the word that best describes Mr. Paul Keating, the Australian Labour government's treasurer (finance minister), for he exhibits that rare quality in Australian politics — an aura of neatness.

His suits are conservative and so are his politics. He is very much in charge of his brief and a tower of strength on the government front bench.

Recently, during the last sitting of the House of Representatives before the start of this general election campaign, Mr. Keating lectured the Liberal-National party opposition on the folly of its ways. The total cost of the tax concessions envisaged by the opposition was a \$3.9 billion (U.S. \$3.4 billion) said Mr. Keating. This was in addition to the coalition's "irresponsible" expenditure promises. "Clearly," said the treasurer, "the opposition completely lacks any fiscal credibility."

It was an immaculate performance, watched with bright-eyed glee by the matinee idol himself, Prime Minister Bob Hawke, whose own performance in parliament that afternoon displayed the exuberance of a man who towers above his rivals in the polls and may well reap a landslide in the general election on Dec. 6.

Much of the credit for Labour's smooth run to date can be ascribed to its luck with the economy. For example, no sooner had it gained office than drenching rains broke Australia's costliest-ever drought. Similarly, Labour's 19 months in power have coincided with much-improved conditions abroad.

At the same time, Labour is quick to claim credit for achieving "remarkable" economic growth during its first spell in office and to argue that its consensus approach has reshaped relations between industry, unions and governments

(both federal and state).

Labour's key election claim will be that it has launched Australia on a new growth path and that the achievement of sustainable non-inflationary growth is no longer a chimera. "We could take this path," says Mr. Keating, "or we could opt for a return to the sickness of the 1970s — with high inflation, low growth and declining job opportunities."

However, some argue that Labour's pay and prices pact with the Australian Council of Trade Unions faces real problems in the months ahead. Inflationary pressures, they say, are bound to reappear, and Australia's return to centralisation of real wages could carry the seeds of Labour's destruction.

The government's sternest critic has been Mr. John Stone, who resigned recently as secretary of the treasury and from the public service.

In a speech in late August, while he was still officially head of the Treasury, Mr. Stone derided what he called the "pitch of lunacy" and

"national self-delusion" in labour market affairs and suggested that businessmen re-peruse George Orwell's Animal Farm.

"They might thereby be reminded," said Mr. Stone, "of the fate of all those other goodhearted and well-meaning animals such as the old horse Boxer who, in a spirit of trust and consensus, allowed the pigs under their charismatic leader Napoleon to lead them forward — to their ultimately bitter end."

The government is much irritated by Mr. Stone, but unsavouring in its claim to have liberated Australia from the "monetarism" and "confrontationalism" of the 1975-83 Liberal-National Party regime of Mr. Malcolm Fraser.

In his recent budget speech, Mr. Keating said that between the June quarters of 1983 and 1984, economic growth was over 10 per cent. Non-farm growth was expected to average five per cent in 1984-85, a little higher than last year's, while overall gross domestic product growth would be

about four per cent.

By June next year, the government expects to have created more than 400,000 new jobs, against a March 1983 election promise of 500,000 new jobs in three years.

"With continued wage moderation and a non-inflationary monetary policy," said Mr. Keating, "the rise in the consumer price index is expected to be a little over five per cent between the June quarters 1984 and 1985 — a dramatic change from the 11.5 per cent inflation rate we inherited from our predecessors."

There has been a major improvement in profits, through from a base of record low returns in 1982-83. Poor business investment has been the missing ingredient in the recovery and the outlook remains mixed. Retail sales are patchy, but point to significant first-quarter real growth. Motor vehicle sales are at a near-record annual rate of 400,000. There is further strong recovery in the housing market (new dwelling approvals in July were 13,830, the highest since 1974).

On the other hand, manufacturing employment rose only slightly in August and the production statistics are mixed. Against that, the latest confederation of Australian Industry-Westpac survey indicated much greater optimism among manufacturers. Capital spending plans were at their best levels for three years, supporting an earlier survey by the Bureau of Statistics in which respondents revised upwards their previously reported capital spending intentions for 1984-85 by 14.5 per cent. This was the biggest upward revision of estimates since 1979-80, in the heady days prior to Australia's "most recent" short-lived mining and resources boom.

Interest rates have eased and there are bullish pointers for rates next year. In addition, despite the surging strength of the U.S. dollar, the Australian dollar has held its ground well, with some bankers expecting the local currency to move up through the U.S. \$0.80 mark (against \$0.85 at present) in the first half of 1985. Financial Times news feature.



# Israelis twin with a tyrant

IT IS easy to dismiss the recent "twinning" ceremony between the West Bank settlement of Ariel and Bisho, capital of the South African homeland Ciskei, as a small and unimportant event.

The agreement was signed in a cramped hotel room by Ciskei President Lennox Sebe and Ariel Mayor Ya'acov Fattelson. It provided for tourism and cultural, industrial and scientific exchanges between the two towns in the making which have neither culture, science nor industry to offer. It is the rare tourist who would fly some 2,000 kilometres to spend his vacation in Ariel — or in Bisho, for that matter.

The pathetic presumption of the agreement was compounded by the hypocrisy of the speeches that followed its signing. The Israeli speakers, among whom were Likud Knesset Members Yoram Aridor, Haim Kaufman and Michael Dekel, spoke in terms of Israeli-Ciskei brotherhood and a common struggle against a cruel world of double standards.

Sebe, a former deputy inspector of Bantu (black) education who has taken to sporting the honourific "Dr" for outstripping the Israelis when it came to bathe. The occasion, he said, was "almost too precious to be scarred by words — almost too glorious for ordinary men."

Implicitly comparing the travails of Ciskei with the Holocaust, he said that like Jews, "the people of the republic of Ciskei were persecuted (sic) and oppressed and were the victims of atrocities of other people — that called themselves human."

The basic message of all the speeches was that the twinning of Ariel (a settlement of some 700 families) and Bisho (a built-from-scratch capital with some 5,000 residents) was a mighty blow for freedom; that Africa's premier symbol of man's yearning to be free and independent had finally found a soul mate in the rocky Samaritan hills.

All that could be dismissed as merely bizarre, were it not for the

fact that an increasing number of Israelis are gleefully cosying up to what is fast becoming one of Africa's more tyrannical and brutal regimes. In the three years since he accepted "independence" from South Africa, President-for-life Sebe has imposed a reign of terror on his people that has left even his apartheid mentors aghast.

First, the Israeli connection. In August 1982, the Ciskei Trade Mission in Israel was opened by Yosef Schneider, an immigrant from the Soviet Union, and Nat Rosenwasser, a U.S. immigrant and Herut activist. Describing themselves as "employees of the Ciskei Foreign Ministry," Schneider and Rosenwasser channel Israeli aid and investment to the impoverished homeland. Their efforts have been highly successful. Some 10 Israeli-owned factories are currently in various stages of construction, ranging from textiles and underwear to vintage cars, toys and pharmaceuticals.

Among the Israeli investors in the Ciskei are former Finance Minister Aridor, Ephraim ("Proka") Poran, a reserve brigadier-general and former military secretary to premiers Yitzhak Rabin and Menachem Begin, and at least two other Knesset members.

Investment is not the only area that has attracted Israelis. Israeli doctors are working in Ciskei hospitals, an Israeli-run (though Swiss- and U.K.-registered) company, Gnr Construction, has contracted to build two hospitals, and Israeli companies, some of which have state financing, are running educational and agricultural development programmes.

The Israeli government does not recognise Ciskei and has adopted a public policy of benign neglect. Sebe and other Ciskei officials travel on South African travel documents, and the Trade Mission operates unhindered — there being no way that Israel can prevent its citizens from conducting their private business. Foreign Ministry officials maintain

Israeli and Ciskei officials vehemently deny periodic reports in the foreign press that Ciskei is being given arms and military know-how by Israel (or possibly Israelis). Yet the reports persist. A group of Ciskei pilots is currently being trained at the Dror flying school in Herzliya — for crop spraying purposes, according to Dror and Ciskei officials. Dror is owned by Israeli businessman Ira Curtis, who is described in the *Dun and Bradstreet Gazette* as a supplier of aerospace, military and marine equipment.

Curtis sold a Westwind jet to Sebe several years ago, and is reportedly involved in the construction of a new airport at Bisho. He has been indicted in the U.S. for attempting to smuggle light planes to Ciskei under false pretences.

No less a figure than Sebe's former security adviser has spoken openly about the arms link. In an interview with the *Johannesburg Star* last January, Major-General Taillefer Minnaar, formerly of the South African Defence Forces, said that he had accompanied Sebe to Israel in 1982 "to buy arms for the Ciskei government." Sebe cut the trip short after hearing that his brother Charles, the commander-general of State Security, was about to overthrow him.

Charles is now serving a 12-year prison term, along with another brother, and Minnaar is back in South Africa, after having been held in solitary confinement and in a mental hospital on suspicion of having been party to the alleged plot.

The Israeli network in Ciskei is becoming increasingly intricate, as can be seen from the visits to the homeland by Ruth Dayan on behalf of an international organisation, and from the presence at the twinning ceremony of a prominent Israeli private arms dealer, who was referred to by Sebe as "my friend." Schneider and Rosenwasser are happy to talk about toy and textile factories, but they and the other Is-

raelis involved keep a discreet silence when it comes to the other spheres of cooperation.

Their silence would be understandable if it were prompted by embarrassment at the appalling civil rights record of the Sebe regime. Though the bombastic speeches at the ceremony make that unlikely, it is nevertheless instructive to dwell on the treatment meted out by Sebe to his people, Ariel's "brothers in spirit and soul," as he described them.

In its 1984 report, issued a few weeks ago, the worldwide human rights organisation Amnesty International speaks of "particularly serious allegations of torture" and widespread detentions in the Ciskei. In particular, Amnesty mentions the roundups that followed the launching of a bus boycott in Mdantsane in July 1983 and the incarceration of those detained in the Sisa Dukashe sports stadium, where "many were allegedly assaulted severely by Ciskei security personnel or people assisting them."

Amnesty's careful and plodding prose covers a multitude of horrors. It does not deal with — and nor is there space here to deal with — the coercive apartheid policies that gave birth to Ciskei. Suffice it to note here that, in terms of the Status of Ciskei Act of 1981, a statutorily defined group of people with linguistic, ethnic or cultural links with the Ciskei — although most had never lived there — were stripped of their South African citizenship and given the status of aliens in South Africa. An estimated 350,000 people, almost one-half of Ciskei's population, were forcibly removed from South Africa and settled in the homeland.

Sebe's talk of the Ciskeians "burning with desire for independence" is contradicted by the report of the Quail Commission of Inquiry, which was established by the Ciskeians themselves to investigate the feasibility of independence. The commission reported, *inter alia*, that the majority of Ciskeians did not favour inde-



Sebe is shown around Ariel by Mayor Ya'acov Fattelson after the twinning ceremony between the occupied West Bank settlement and

Bisho, the capital of Ciskei, which has a population of 5,000. Many Israelis are trying to make a fast buck there.

pendence for the territory. Some 90 per cent of the Xhosa speakers (who make up the dominant tribe) favoured adult suffrage in a unitary political system in South Africa, the commission found.

Sebe ignored the commission's report. Rather than seeking universal suffrage in a unified South Africa, Ciskeians are today ruled by a president-for-life, wielding unchecked political power without parliamentary opposition. He is aided in his endeavours by an impressive array of security legislation, the patronage of his Ciskei National Independence Party (CNIP), and an army of CNIP vigilantes known as the Green Berets.

The Quail Commission reported widespread malnutrition in the Ciskei. According to its report, half the children between the ages of two and three suffer from malnutrition and related diseases, and the infant mortality rate is as high as 50 per cent in certain areas.

Nevertheless, Sebe has been fit to build a show-piece capital at Bisho, with palatial mansions for himself and his ministers and plans for a luxury casino. The president-for-life has a taste for titles, travel and expensive cars, having reportedly acquired a Daimler in addition to his Mercedes Benz and BMW. However, his ardour for nepotism may have cooled after the alleged coup attempt by Charles, another brother and several other family members.

Ciskei's major growth industry is the security apparatus, which received a 250 per cent budget increase between 1981 and 1983. In the 1982-1983 budget, the Department of State Security received almost two-thirds of the funds allocated to Finance and Economic Development. That, in a country that is surrounded by South Africa and has no conceivable enemies — except its own people.

Such is the nature of the regime whose capital was twinned with Ariel. Lennox Sebe is not the first tyrant with whom Israel has had dealings, nor is he the worst.

Ciskei has no Jewish community that needs protecting, no raw materials or technology that Israel requires, and it plays no part in Israel's strategic thinking.

The Ciskei connection exists simply because it offers a fast buck to Israeli businessmen and a market, however puny, to the export industries that must continually expand. Those are very poor reasons for mixing with a brutal dictator and jeopardising this country's reemerging relations with Black Africa.

Israel has links with many morally ambiguous regimes. But those with the Ciskei surely rank among the most senseless — *The Jerusalem Post* magazine.

## Four women plan project in Egypt in search for ruins

By Bayard Webster

FOUR American women have formed an all-female expedition to begin searching in Egypt in January for ruins including the remains of a 70-foot-tall statue of the Pharaoh Amenhotep III, who reigned from 1417 B.C. to 1379 B.C. and was the grandfather of Tutankhamen.

The archaeological survey, which will get under way in January, marks the first time an expedition of women has been granted permission by the Egyptian government to explore a site and dig for relics.

The nine-woman team, consisting of four Americans and five Egyptians, will survey a 25-acre site in the village of Karnak, where the ancient cities of Thebes and Luxor flourished on the eastern shore of the Nile in the 14th century B.C.

The American Women's Archaeological Research Expedition will be directed by Gypsy Graves, director of the museum of archaeology in Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

The co-director in Egypt will be Dr. Wafaa el Sadeek, a prominent Egyptian archaeologist.

The other American members of the team are Diane Smith, Marjorie Carlson and Mary Martin, all of Aspen, Colo., who are co-founders and president, vice-president and secretary, respectively, of the Nile Foundation in Aspen, which is sponsoring the expedition. The four other Egyptian members of the expedition have had archaeological experience.

The project will employ various modern technologies in the search for remnants of Egyptian life in the time of several of the ancient dynasties that ruled Egypt and built its renowned temples, obelisks, sphinxes, pyramids and colossal statues.

The expedition will focus its search for art objects and other remains near an avenue of ram-headed sphinxes and the nearby temple of Amen-Ra at Karnak. The researchers will live on a houseboat on the Nile a half-mile from the survey site. — *New York Times*.

## Great obelisk saga reflects Egypt's vulnerability



By Russell Chamberlin

NOTHING BETTER illustrates the vulnerability of Egypt than the long-drawn saga of the great obelisk, now in London, known as

Cleopatra's Needle. In 1802 the Earl of Cavan obtained permission from Mohammed Ali (Ruler of Egypt) to raise the fallen obelisk, and set it up as a memorial to the British victory over the French.

It speaks much for Cavan's awareness of just what the ordinary Egyptian felt towards these foreigners trampling over Egyptian soil that he turned down a proposal to erect the monument in Alexandria, the obvious and appropriate place for it, because (he thought) the natives would simply knock the monument down the moment the British had left.

In 1821 the Turkish Viceroy asked the British consul Samuel Briggs what gift would make an appropriate present to King George IV, and Mr. Briggs took the opportunity of having the gift ratified. The Viceroy agreed.

There was some difficulty with the Greek landlord of the land upon which the obelisk lay, who demanded compensation. The fact that the obelisk had been encumbered that patch of sand for 2,000 years before the Greek was born was not deemed worthy of comment.

But an agreement was patched up with him and Mr. Briggs was able to write triumphantly to the

Times: "The English nation may now feel quite sure of its property as both the Khedive, owner of the country and of all hidden treasure, and Mr. Dimitri, owner of the land where the treasure lies, have each in the most formal manner abandoned all their rights in the favour of England."

A Turk and a Greek had generously agreed to give a piece of Egypt to Britain. But still nothing happened. In January 1847, 45 years after the first proposal was made to shift the obelisk to England, Prince Albert (in a letter to Lord John Russell) neatly demonstrated that national passion to acquire Egyptian artifacts which was becoming a European obsession: national honour hung upon it. "I hear that the French government is trying to get hold of it (the obelisk) and move it to Paris. This would be a real disgrace to our government."

The French picked up a magnificent obelisk at Luxor and erected it in the Place de la Concorde while the British were still debating costs. In 1859, a writer in the magazine "All the Year Round" recorded:

"The last time the writer saw it, not very long ago, a Briton was sitting upon it, knocking off enough of the inscribed stone for himself and fellow travellers with a

hammer. The writer expostulated with his brother Briton and reminded him that the wonderful relic of bygone days did not belong to him, but had been handsomely presented to the British Nation, and therefore belonged to it.

It was not until 1877 that, through the generosity of a private citizen, funds were raised to transport the great obelisk and at last set it up in London.

Shortly afterwards, the newest of Western states, the USA, acquired its obelisk. James Everts, the secretary of state, in formally presenting this obelisk to the city of New York, emphasised that it was the first of all obelisks to be given voluntarily by the Egyptians, and then went on to give an admirably succinct reason why foreign nations wanted to possess these enormous but uninspiring lumps of stone:

"These obelisks mark a culmination of the power and glory of Egypt, and every conqueror has seemed to think that the final trophy of Egypt's subjection and the proud pre-eminence of his own nation could be shown only by taking an obelisk — the chief mark of Egyptian pomp and pride — to grace the capital of the conquering nation." — *Compass* feature.



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## Everton sweeps to club record

LONDON (R) — Leaders Everton swept to a club record 10th consecutive league and cup victory when they beat bottom club Stoke City 4-0 to consolidate their grip on the English first division at Goodison Park Saturday.

Two early goals by diminutive striker Adrian Heath after 29 and 35 minutes capped a spell of fierce pressure and ensured Everton kept their three-point lead over Manchester United and Arsenal intact. Peter Reid and Trevor Steven added two further goals for Everton in the second half.

Second-placed Manchester United maintained their challenge with a hard-fought 2-0 victory over struggling injury-hit Luton Town at Old Trafford and third-placed Arsenal broke their bleak run with a 1-0 win over London rivals Queen's Park Rangers at Highbury.

Arsenal, who set the pace for several weeks earlier in the season, had gone four games without winning before Saturday.

Their great north London rivals Tottenham Hotspur also kept up their impressive challenge with a 3-0 win at Ipswich which included a majestic goal from Glenn Hoddle, back after injury.

Sheffield Wednesday, who were fifth Saturday morning, went down 1-0 in the so-called "long ball battle" against reviving Watford at Vicarage Road.

Winger John Barnes followed up his two-goal World Cup per-

formance in Turkey with Watford's winner.

Southampton, who had lost only one of their previous 16 matches, were without England goalkeeper Peter Shilton, who was sick, at Aston Villa Saturday. They appeared to be heading for defeat when they trailed 2-0 at halftime, but came back in the second half to snatch a 2-2 draw.

French international winger Didier Six scored his first goal in English soccer to put Villa 3-0 up after England striker Peter Withe had opened the scoring after 27 minutes with a typical header.

West Ham climbed into the top six with a 1-0 victory from an ill-tempered match against Sunderland at Upton Park. Tony Cottee scored the solitary goal after 53 minutes.

Another London club to win was promoted Chelsea who beat West Bromwich Albion 3-1 at Stamford Bridge. The goals came from Scots — David Speedie scored two and former Aberdeen full-back Doug Roughey headed his first goal for the club.

Coventry City went down 1-3 at home to Nottingham Forest. But fellow-strugglers Leicester City ended Norwich City's six-match

unbeaten run with a 2-0 win at Filbert Street.

Former Scotland striker Joe Jordan was the Southampton hero at Aston Villa. He scored both their second-half goals with headers from accurate corners by England under-21 winger Danny Wallace to earn them a draw in an entertaining match.

Heath's two goals for Everton in their 4-0 drubbing of Stoke put him level with Chelsea's Kerry Dixon as the first division's leading scorer with 11 league goals.

There were cries of relief at Highbury where Tony Woodcock followed up his two goals for England in midweek with the 72nd minute winner against Queen's Park Rangers.

The visitors, who have been languishing close to the relegation zone after a promising season last year, had annoyed the Arsenal fans by employing their infamous offside trap until Woodcock struck to score after another England man, Viv Anderson, had headed down a cross from Ian Allison.

Manchester United's fans had to wait until the second half before their team went in front against Luton town with a goal from Northern Ireland striker Norman Whiteside.

England and United captain Bryan Robson, who scored a hat-trick in Turkey, went off after 45 minutes with concussion and was substituted by Frank Stapleton.

## Sports arbitration court launched

LAUSANNE, Switzerland (R) — A court of arbitration for sport, set up to deal with sports disputes which would otherwise go to ordinary tribunals, was launched Saturday.

The new body will deal with private disputes which are not covered by Olympic rules or other sport regulations, International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Juan Antonio Samaranch, told a news conference.

Disputes may involve questions of principle relative to sport, financial interests, and anything else at stake in the practice or development of sport.

Samaranch floated the idea of an arbitration body at the IOC's Baden-Baden congress in 1981 and the statutes of the new court were adopted at last year's IOC meeting in New Delhi.

The body will be headed by Keba M'Baye, a judge at the International Court of Justice in the Hague and IOC member for Senegal, and will be based at IOC headquarters in Lausanne. It will comprise 40 independent members.

The idea is to make rulings, as quickly as possible and at minimum cost to avoid lengthy, complicated and otherwise costly procedures involved in ordinary courts, Samaranch said.

The court, whose decisions will be binding, will intervene when requested to do so by both parties in dispute.

## Rome bids to stage Formula One races

ROME (R) — The Rome Automobile Club said Friday it was applying to stage a Formula One Grand Prix motor race over a four-kilometre circuit in one of Rome's southern suburbs next season.

Club officials said mayor Ugo Vetere was backing the request, which would be considered at a meeting of the International Motor Sport Federation (FISA) in Paris on December 1.

They said Rome's chances of holding its first Formula One race depended on whether Dallas and New York dropped their applications to be included in the 1985 calendar.

Club president Nicola Cutrofo said they wanted to hold the race here next September or October. "It will be a great sporting and tourist occasion — like a little holy year," he said.

## Morocco beats Egypt in Youth World Cup

CAIRO (R) — Morocco qualified for the second African qualifying round for the Youth World Cup when they held Egypt to a 1-1 draw (halftime 1-1) in a second-leg first round match played here Saturday.

Morocco won their home leg 2-0 earlier this month. Scorers: Egypt's Hosam Hassan (10th minute) and Morocco's Bel Qaso (37th).

# Zola Budd — free to continue international running career

LONDON (R) — Zola Budd put her promising and potentially lucrative running career into cold storage last week when she chose not to run at an athletics meeting in Stellenbosch, South Africa.

By opting not to run, the 18-year-old Briton remains free to return to the track and continue her international career, despite announcing earlier this month that she wanted to stay in her native South Africa.

But more significantly, missing the race has kept alive her chances of cashing in on next season's inaugural Athletics Grand Prix circuit — a move which could earn her a small fortune.

As a British citizen, Zola Budd's short international athletics career will be over if she runs again in her homeland as South Africa is suspended by the International Amateur Athletics Federation (IAAF) for its apartheid policies.

It was the same ban which led Budd to leave her family and farm in Bloemfontein, Orange Free State, eight months ago in the hope of gaining British citizenship and running in the Los Angeles Olympics.

But it was an ambition she was to realise at a price. Far from being the reward for years of hard work, the Olympic 3,000 metres final turned out to be a nightmare for Budd while the month of pressure led to the separation of her parents Frank and Tossie.

After such a volatile year, Budd's decision to stay in South Africa had been half expected. The shy and frail-looking girl, for whom running barefoot became a trade mark, was known to be unhappy here and had been dogged by controversy ever since her arrival.

Sponsored by an English national newspaper, the Daily Mail, Budd was sheltered by the paper as a war of words broke out between politicians, pressure groups and sports administrators when she was granted British citizenship on April 6, just 10 days after arriving in England.

Hounded by an army of reporters, she surfaced only to run and said very little.

While her talent as a runner was never questioned — an unofficial 5,000 metres world record of 15 minutes 01.83 seconds, in Stellenbosch in January had seen to that — the ethics of switching nationalities to gain entry to the Olympics concerned many.

Budd kept a low profile as the debate raged, choosing instead to let her running talk for her. And within weeks her punishing but exciting style of leading from the front swept her to a 1,500 metres world junior best time and a 2,000 metres world best to provide ample evidence of her abundant potential.

But after winning a place in the British Olympic team, the Zola Budd story was to take a dramatic and cruel twist. In the Los Angeles Coliseum and in front of a world-wide TV audience, American darling and race favourite Mary Decker collided with Budd and crashed out of the race.

Decker, whose picture adorned Budd's bedroom wall in Bloemfontein, was left writhing in agony on the inside of the track while Budd ran on to finish seventh with jeers and boos ringing in her ears as thousands of spectators blamed her for the incident.

Budd returned to South Africa after the Olympics for a short holiday and announced that she would not be returning to Britain when her contract with the Daily Mail expired last month.

She formally disclosed her decision in a letter to her local newspaper. Her statement read: "It was always for me important to enjoy my athletics and I hope in the coming year to mean something for South African athletics. The experience in Britain was instructive but I chose rather to stay in South Africa."

Later she told South African television: "It was a difficult decision but I want to live my life myself."

The split between her parents was thought to be a prime factor in her decision to stay. But her father said: "It's tragic. It is a slap in the face to a country and people that took her to their hearts."

Her announcement was given a mixed reception by the British press. The Daily Mail argued that Budd had "graduated with honour from the most gruelling of international initiation courses" and added: "Now, just when she could have the world at her feet, she may shut the world out and throw away the key. It doesn't have to be so final... as long as she stays in South Africa without racing there, she can keep the key."

The London Times, while sympathetic to Budd's predicament, was critical of the way she had been manipulated by the Mail. "Those around her should have looked beyond the Olympic Games of 1984. The earliest she should have planned to compete for Britain was in the World Championships of 1987 or maybe the European Championships of 1986. She is not staying here because of the controversy of the 3,000 metres final in Los Angeles. Her decision is the combination of events of the last six months."

Reaction in South Africa was more critical. Leading cricketer Clive Rice said: "This is not good news for South African sport. It mars our reputation in Britain and gives the impression that South Africans are coming people in order to compete internationally. Once she competed for Britain, she was honour-bound to carry on."

On hearing of Budd's plans to stay in South Africa, the British Amateur Athletics Board (BAAB) secretary to the British Amateur Athletics Board (BAAB) said: "It would be a great shame if she is lost to track and field internationally as I am absolutely convinced she is a great talent."

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Zola Budd decided to remain in South Africa but not to participate in race.

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## Monaco reacts angrily to race exclusion

MONACO (R) — The decision to exclude the Monte Carlo Rally and Monaco Grand Prix from next year's World Championship was Friday described as "totally irresponsible" by Monaco Automobile Club President Michel Boeri.

He accused Jean-Marie Balestre, President of the International Motor Sport Federation (FISA), of heavy personal responsibility for giving Monaco a deadline earlier this week to comply with regulations of the International Automobile Federation (FIA).

"Added to the attack on the principality's sports and economy is his determination to destroy two contests which are not only part of the historic heritage of international motor racing, but are

also essentially linked to French motor racing," Boeri said.

"This was a totally irresponsible decision which simple common sense should never have allowed. We will make our rights prevail."

A few hours before the Wednesday deadline, the Monaco government announced it was abandoning efforts to mediate in the dispute with FISA. FIA's sporting arm.

FIA then announced the exclusion of the two Monaco events from the 1985 championship calendar, saying the government statement amounted to a final rejection of "advantageous compromise proposals" put forward by FISA.

The dispute over the Grand Prix involved television rights, while

the rally was dropped over a demand by the French Automobile Federation, also headed by Balestre, for one million francs (\$110,000) for use of French territory.

"I am surprised that Mr. Balestre could have accused Monaco of making a unilateral decision," Monaco Minister of State Jean Herlihy said Friday. "Wasn't it unilateral that he arbitrarily taxed Monaco one million francs for the rally?"

Monaco National Council President Jean-Charles Rey said Balestre had acted dictatorially and in bad faith.

"But he is not above the law and the courts will tell him so, with all the consequences this implies," he added.

## Lendl defeats Sweden's Nystrom, advances to Champions' final

ANTWERP, Belgium (R) — Ivan Lendl earned the chance to win the richest prize in tennis for the second time with a 6-3, 6-4 semifinal win over Sweden's Joakim Nystrom in the \$800,000 European Champions' Championship Saturday.

But things did not always go as smoothly as planned for the Czechoslovak world number two whose uncharacteristic slips were greedily seized upon by the young Swede.

Nystrom, who has staged a meteoric rise from 167th in the world

to eighth in just two years, put up a creditable display, lobbing accurately and hitting deep into the corners.

But the 1982 champion's powerful service and deadly follow-up won through and brought the \$200,000 first prize within his sights.

He will meet the winner of the other semifinal match between Ramesh Krishnan of India and Anders Jarryd of Sweden.

Lendl's confident stride towards victory faltered in the fifth game of the second set when Nystrom finally broke his serve after a controversial line call and four deuces for 3-2.

But he failed to capitalise on the opportunity, allowing Lendl to break back in the sixth. From then on, he showed little sign of halting the inexorable process of the Czechoslovak, who took the match in one hour 23 minutes.

serve in the fifth game to go 3-2 up. Nystrom managed to win one more game but ended the ninth with a double fault, conceding the set in just 30 minutes.

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## U.S. seeks changes in World Bank policies

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration has brushed aside criticism that it has been tightfisted in its backing of World Bank programmes for poor countries and according to government sources will press for a review of the bank's loan policies.

If changes being considered are adopted, they could lead to new loan conditions for poor countries, though the poorest, including those in sub-Saharan Africa, might have more funds available for aid.

When it came to power, the Reagan administration was critical of the multilateral development banks and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Critics took the position that U.S. money often found its way through the lending agencies to countries opposed to U.S. foreign policy goals.

The administration was also critical of what it regarded as laxity in the conditions set by the IMF for countries hit by balance of payments problems to get loans.

One source, however, said Fri-

day there had been progress in the operations of the institutions, noting there were "grounds for some satisfaction."

The sources made the following points:

— Loans by the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank affiliate that helps countries having nowhere else to turn, should be fundamentally changed in terms of interest rates and maturities.

— There should be continued separation of the roles of the IMF, lending short-term for balance-of-payments problems, and the World Bank, primarily concerned with development projects.

— World Bank loans should be against a backdrop of overall economic reform, with increased attention to market forces.

At present, loans by the IDA are for 50 years and are essentially interest-free.

According to the sources, the United States believes that the duration of IDA loans should be shortened in some cases since the

projects financed sometimes generate a return, a portion of which could be used to repay the financing.

In addition, a case could be made for some kind of two-tier interest rate system under which some IDA loans could carry very small interest rather than none at all.

As the dimensions of the debt crisis have become obvious the World Bank has increased substantially the amount of loans it provides, which in the final analysis go to help balance of payments and debt problems.

These loans, which World Bank officials privately put at about 16 per cent of bank lending, are a departure from the focus on project loans. The sources said the United States wanted to see these reduced as the crisis eased.

"We don't want to see a blurring between the role of the IMF and World Bank," one source said.

The United States defended its decision last year to pledge only \$750 million a year over three

years, a reduction of 25 per cent on the previous pledge.

It said that the big budget deficits made it difficult to get congressional approval for more and that the money should be earmarked for the very poorest countries.

However, many countries have complained about the U.S. position and earlier last week, America's Roman Catholic bishops criticised the cut.

The sources said the United States, since moving its economy into recovery two years ago, had helped the indebted countries of Latin America by allowing huge increases in exports.

There has been concern that the slowing of U.S. economic growth in recent months would have an impact on the debt problem but the sources say that the reform process in Latin America is sufficiently underway to counter a reduction in U.S. exports.

"I don't see a slide backwards because of a slow-down in the U.S. economy," one source said.

## Report details Islamic clearing union

ISTANBUL (R) — Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) experts have made recommendations on the establishment of an Islamic clearing union, on which OIC ministers in conference here last week agreed to begin work.

They said that seven such clearing arrangements already operate in Asia, Africa and Latin America, one of the most successful of which was the Asian Clearing Union (ACU).

The experts' report said the benefits to the Islamic countries of a clearing union were shown by the amount of compensable trade — the amount of trade between two countries in one direction which is covered by that in the other.

Of the total trade volume of 19 Islamic countries of the Middle East and North Africa in 1983 of \$33 billion, \$21 billion was compensable trade, it said.

This sum in convertible currencies would have been saved for other uses if there had been a clearing union in which central banks would settle claims on each other in local currencies and a common unit of account.

The standing committee for economic and commercial cooperation of the OIC, which ended a three-day meeting Friday agreed to set up a working group of experts under the aegis of the Islamic Development Bank to examine the feasibility of:

— A long-term financing facility.  
— A regional system of export credit guarantees and.  
— A multinational Islamic clearing union.

The experts visited the ACU in August this year and based their explanations and suggestions on what they learned.

They said there had to be an agreed amount of trade between prospective members of the clearing union but the experience of the ACU was that the clearing union by itself creates a stimulus for expansion of trade among members.

The experts suggested that set-

tlement should be at monthly intervals and that a unit of account be used "at par with a relatively stable reserve asset such as the Special Drawing Right (SDR) of the International Monetary Fund."

There would have to be guarantees against default, with any defaulting country suspended from access to the clearing mechanism, the experts said.

### Free trade zone

In a related development, OIC ministers of trade and industry decided to strive for creation of a free trade zone, initially by looking at ways of reducing non-tariff trade barriers.

Turkish President Kenan Evren told the closing session of the OIC meeting that the measures agreed should lead to more information about trade, to trade promotion activities and financial facilities including a multilateral clearing mechanism.

He said joint industrial ventures would be encouraged and special measures taken on contracting, consultancy and engineering enterprises and promotion of sectoral and professional associations.

And in an unscheduled addition to the final meeting, OIC Deputy Secretary General Arshad Ull Zahman told the meeting Saudi Arabia and Turkey were to donate \$30 million each to the Islamic Committee for Solidarity with the

People of the Sahel for drought relief.

Thirty-five of the 45 OIC members, plus Nigeria and Northern Cyprus as observers, took part in the meeting, most represented by at least one minister.

President Evren said: "I believe the measures we will take to carry out the implementation programme on trade will manifest its positive results in due time."

The programme comes after years of effort to make progress towards a kind of Islamic common market but officials said it remained to be seen whether the OIC states could translate it into concrete action.

A decade-old plan for an Arab common market has achieved very little and smaller regional groupings like the Gulf Cooperation Council have proved more successful.

The ministers approved the draft statute of the Islamic Cement Association, a producer grouping which conference sources had earlier said was threatened by the difficulty of uniting the interests of countries where private as opposed to state-run industry predominates.

A resolution on industrial cooperation, less ambitious than that on trade, called for encouragement of joint industrial ventures, joint investments and further sectoral professional or industrial associations.

## 'Third World countries have power of debt'

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere, the new chairman of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), said Friday Africa should refuse to pay its foreign debts in order to force creditor nations to negotiate a more just world economic order.

The veteran African leader was speaking after an OAU summit which ended Thursday with an unprecedented focus on the continent's chronic economic plight, including drought, decline and foreign debts totalling \$150 billion.

"Third World countries have

the power of debt. They should simply refuse to pay. If Africa did that and said, 'we are not paying until we sit down and discuss how we are going to pay' then Europe would sit up and take note," Mr. Nyerere said.

The summit was critical of the industrialised world for its policies towards developing states but it also called on OAU members to do more to help themselves in what delegates said was a new sense of realism about the 21-year-old body's role.

The pan-African organisation has faced uncertainty for the past three years because of internal

disputes but decided last week to relegate them and attack deep-rooted economic ills.

The summit called for massive international aid but also pledged to set up its own fund from voluntary contributions to tackle under-development and emergencies such as drought and famine.

But Mr. Nyerere wondered how much African countries might be able to pay when, with few exceptions, they are saddled with heavy debt service ratios and population growth rates that match or outstrip economic growth.

"They won't be able to contribute much. But even African countries import whisky, and they cannot afford some of the whisky they import."

"We do not feel the fund will be the answer — the international community must help — but before we ask other countries to assist we must show our seriousness," he said.

Jubilant OAU officials said the organisation had been rescued after years of disarray.

"We are back on schedule," Interim OAU Secretary General Peter Onu told Reuters.

## Chernenko criticises economic weaknesses

MOSCOW (R) — President Konstantin Chernenko has outlined serious weaknesses in the Soviet economy, pointing to poor quality goods, laziness and consumer goods shortages.

But Western economic experts said Friday that his speech to the ruling politburo Thursday was less hard-hitting than a similar one by his predecessor Yuri Andropov last year.

In his address, printed in all the major Soviet daily newspapers Friday, Mr. Chernenko said the Soviet economy had turned the corner in the past two years but was still far from satisfactory.

Oil and coal production was below target, a third of all trucks did not work and "gross miscalculations" meant people could only find summer shoes in the shops as the bitter Russian winter set in, he said.

Diplomats who watch the Soviet economy said Mr. Chernenko itemised problem areas but did not offer any major solutions.

Last December, a report by Andropov to the Communist Party's central committee sharply criticised managers and called for greater labour discipline and productivity, both hallmarks of his brief leadership. He died last February.

The diplomats said Andropov had given a more rounded assessment of the economy to his speech last year.

One diplomat said that the Soviet leader's criticisms were generally milder than Andropov's.

Both leaders' reports were detailing the country's economic plan for the following year.

Mr. Chernenko, 73, told the politburo that industrial output should rise almost solely as a result of improved labour productivity instead of greater capital investment.

People should not just work harder but also make higher qual-

### U.S. charge espionage

Meanwhile, U.S. officials in Washington said Friday the Soviet Union has stepped up industrial espionage in Western Europe and the United States following an agreement by the West to restrict the legal flow of high technology to Moscow.

The officials told Reuters the increase in espionage has prompted Western governments to tighten enforcement of the July 12 agreement by the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom) limiting sales of technology with possible military uses to the Warsaw Pact.

Officials said statistics on industrial espionage were hard to collate but there appeared to have been a marked increase in the activities of Soviet Bloc agents this year.

Asked about an increase, deputy assistant defence secretary Mr. Stephen Bryen told Reuters: "Yes, there's no doubt about it... you largely have to go on impressions... but we have a number of cases in Europe."

## British Telecom share sale worth \$4.9 billion

LONDON (R) — The biggest share issue in history — valued at nearly \$5 billion — got under way Friday when the British government announced the price of shares to be sold in the state-owned telephone firm British Telecom.

Information Technology Minister Geoffrey Pattie told parliament that British Telecom shares had been priced at 130 pence (\$1.64) each.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative administration is selling off 50.2 per cent holding in the firm to private investors as part of its programme of "rolling back the frontiers of state ownership".

The share price announced Friday put a value of £7.8 billion (\$9.8 billion) on British Telecom. The 50.2 per cent sell-off of 3.01 billion shares priced at 130 pence each is worth 3.9 billion (\$4.9 billion).

This dwarfs the previous biggest share issue on record, worth \$1.37 billion, by the American Telephone and Telegraph Company (ATT) in 1971.

Friday's announcement sparked howls of protest from the opposition Labour Party, with

spokesman Mr. Alan Williams accusing the government of parting with the company at a knockdown price.

Mr. Williams predicted that the shares would rise 10 per cent the moment they are first traded on the London stock exchange on Dec. 3.

His party has pledged to renationalise British Telecom, the world's fourth largest telecommunications firm employing 240,000 people, if it returns to office.

The Conservative government's Pattie told parliament that half the offer would be taken up by financial institutions, 14 per cent would be sold outside Europe and the rest would be reserved for small, private investors.

A huge publicity campaign has been mounted to woo ordinary Britons who do not normally buy shares, and special incentives have been offered to telephone subscribers.

An unprecedented two million people have expressed initial interest in the share sale. This is expected to create an avalanche of applications from the public by the time the offer closes on Wednesday, Nov. 28.

## U.N. report highlights potential of Antarctic

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Although Antarctica is believed to be rich in minerals, the one resource of immediate economic interest is the ice in its icebergs, according to a United Nations report.

The 116-page document, published Friday, was prepared for a General Assembly debate on the future of the territory, which appeared on the U.N. agenda for the first time last year.

The report surveys the physical, legal, political, economic and scientific aspects of the vast ice-covered wasteland.

According to the U.N. study, it has yet to be proved that there are mineral resources in Antarctica worth exploiting and at the present time "prospects for developing such resources appear to be remote."

But it adds: "The mineral resource of immediate economic interest is the ice in the icebergs themselves."

"The 27 million cubic kilometres of ice in the Antarctic ice cap make up about 70 per cent of the usable fresh water on earth. Countries with fresh-water deficiencies have thought of Ant-

arctic icebergs as a potential fresh-water resource."

The idea of transporting icebergs to water-deficient parts of the world was studied in 1973, and in 1977 the idea of towing icebergs to arid regions of the world became respectable when the first international conference on iceberg utilisation was held at Iowa State University.

According to the report, initial expenditure for an iceberg project for Saudi Arabia was estimated in 1978 at anywhere from \$10 billion to \$50 billion. Allowing for inflation, this would now have increased to between \$16 billion and \$80 billion.

"According to researchers this would, in the long term, result in relatively low costs for water at today's prices, because of the massive amount of water transported," the report said.

"However, the initial investment for facilities, dredging and port modifications would be so great that it is believed there are few nations that could ever complete such an expenditure. More research is likely to be conducted in the near future," the study adds.

### THE BETTER HALF

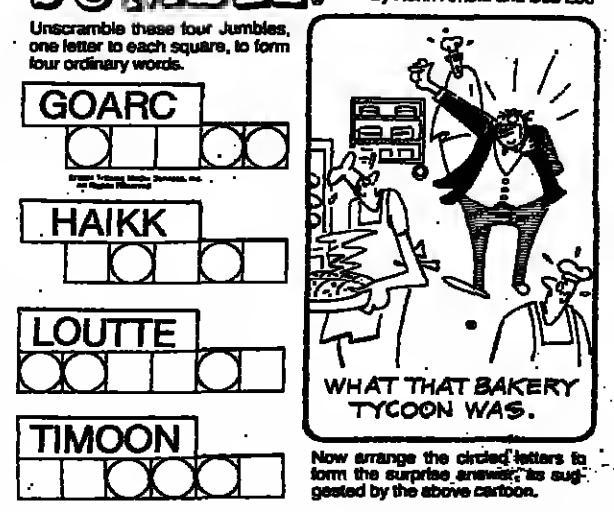
By Harris



"The bank called. They say we have to make the convenient monthly payments even if it's inconvenient!"

### JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME



Yesterday's Jumbles: FINIS HONEY HOOKED BUTANE  
Answer: Where the concealed weight lifted let his body go—TO HIS HEAD

### Peanuts



### Mutt 'n' Jeff

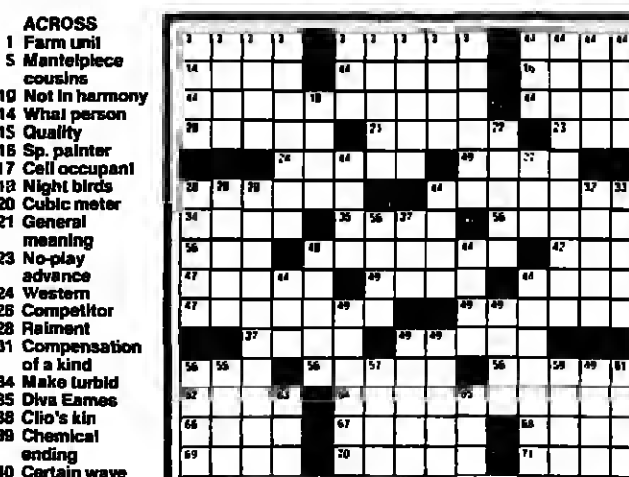


### Andy Capp

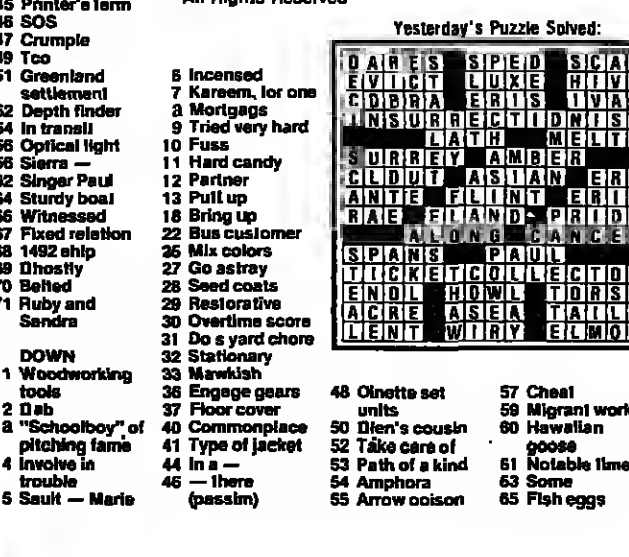


### THE Daily Crossword

by Victor Jambor, Jr.



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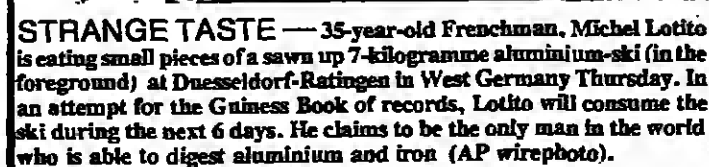


**MANAGUA (R)** — Nicaragua sent a protest to the United States accusing the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) of trying to sabotage its coffee harvest by killing peasants and farmers.

The protest follows one last week in which Nicaragua accused the United States of violating its territory and planning an invasion. U.S. officials denied the charges. On Friday Nicaragua denied

Fearing an imminent invasion, Nicaragua put its 60,000 armed forces on full alert and mobilised and armed thousands of civilians. Authorities in the Pacific port of Corinto, where the Bakuriani

Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Hugo Tinoco and President Reagan's special envoy for Central America Harry Shlaudeman have had seven meetings this year at the Mexican resort of Manzanillo and arrangements are believed to be under way for an eighth.



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U.S. officials have suggested in the past few days that Nicaragua is building up an arsenal in preparation to attack its neighbors. Not only have U.S. officials refused to rule out a naval blockade

## Zaire accuses unnamed states of invasion bid

## Surgeon promises more baboon transplants

They were charged with smuggling \$1.6 billion worth of heroin into the United States over a five-year period in an operation

**Mozambican guerrillas warn foreigners to leave**

Maputo was completely isolated and encircled and any rail or road movement was impossible beyond four kilometres outside the city.

The board, which runs Britain's 174 state-owned mines, said Friday that 372 more miners broke ranks with the strike that day.

It said this brought to over 5,000 the number of strikers who had returned to work since the 30,000 miners in the

now, this movement will forgive you, but if you continue to work there can be no forgiveness."

The union called the strike March 12 to protest government cost-saving plans to eliminate 30,000 miners in the

In a bristling reply, Mr. Narva insisted: "I yield to no one in the determination of what is necessary for me to do in the service of my country."

**KUWAIT** — A Kuwaiti national weighing 320 kilograms had to use the cargo hold when the plane carrying him landed in Cairo Airport. Khalil Ibrahim could not use the passenger gate when he got out of the plane because of his 2.9 metres diameter belly. When he was aboard the plane, Khalil occupied two seats but did not use the seats next to him because it was of no use to him. Khalil's normal meal usually consists of quarter of a sheep, four kilos of rice, some salads and appetisers. He likes sweets very much and eats lots of them, the Kuwait-based daily Al-Anba's head

**KUWAIT (R)** — A special radio service was inaugurated here to an-

### hionable sea-facing Bombay apartment. Police said she bolted from her room and jumped out of the building on the city's Marine Drive. Her husband, Kanti Desai, a former parliamentarian, and

renewing on pledges to increase the percentage of women in professional posts, including senior positions.

tations between adults and children were sentenced to imprisonment. David Joy and Peter Bremner were convicted of sending an obscene article — the group's magazine — through the

and is fighting extradition, Juy was sentenced to 18 months in jail and Bremner to six.

BY CHARLES GOREN  
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## ANSWERS TO BRIDGE QUIZ

providing him with quite a bit of insurance. Although you have some help for partner at a heart contract, don't consider overruling him.

The interpreter turned to judge and said "not guilty".

They said sworn testimony in Italy listed him as head of all Sicilian mafia families from 1973 to 1978, when he lost control in a power struggle.

He said he would help but only after the ombudsman's office had studied the reports and supporting evidence. "That is an indispensable prerequisite task," Mr. Narvasa said.

lophile Initiative (PIE) went before the trial. In addition, Joy was months in jail and